

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Allen et al.

Serial No.: 10/604,987

Group Art Unit: 2822

Filed: 08/29/03

Examiner: Siek, Vuthe

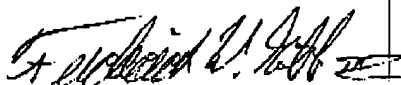
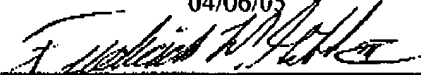
For: THE USE OF A LAYOUT-OPTIMIZATION TOOL TO INCREASE THE
YIELD AND RELIABILITY OF VLSI DESIGNSCommissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450REQUEST FOR REFUND

Sir:

During the afternoon of August 28, 2003 the USPTO's EFS system did not properly process acknowledgment receipts due to a series of software changes. The unique software errors of that afternoon generated acknowledgement receipts that indicated to Applicants that their parent application submissions were received with zero bytes, or otherwise indicated that the electronic submission failed. When Applicant received this notice, and attempted to resubmit the same application, multiple authorizations for filing fees were charged to Applicant's Deposit Account No. 09-0456 for the filing fee of \$1,000.00. Applicants have had Serial No. 10/604,987 expressly abandoned due to the duplicate filing of the same application being prosecuted in Serial No. 10/604,962.

Please refund the fee of \$1,000.00 for the filing of Serial No. 10/604,987 (that was only charged because of the error with the EFS system) to Attorney's Deposit Account Number 09-0456.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 4-6-05Frederick W. Gibb, III
Reg. No. 37,629McGinn & Gibb, PLLC
2568-A Riva Road
Suite 304
Annapolis, MD 21401
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